

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A handheld computer, comprising:
2 a housing,
3 a display supported by the housing;
4 computing electronics supported by the housing and
5 configured to communicate with the display; and
6 an integrated input device configured to provide input to the
7 handheld computer, the input device providing different input signals to
8 the computing electronics dependent on a directional movement provided
9 by a user, the input device configured to communicate more than four
10 distinct directional movements from a user to the computing electronics.
- 1 2. The handheld computer of claim 1, wherein the integrated
2 input device is a pad.
- 1 3. The handheld computer of claim 1, wherein the integrated
2 input device is a button.
- 1 4. The handheld computer of claim 1, wherein the integrated input
2 device includes a receptacle for coupling a graspable portion thereto.
- 1 5. The handheld computer of claim 4, wherein the display is a
2 touch screen configured to be used with a stylus.
- 1 6. The handheld computer of claim 5, wherein at least a portion of
2 the stylus is configured to be coupled to the integrated input device.
- 1 7. The handheld computer of claim 6, wherein a first portion of the
2 stylus is configured to be unscrewed from a second portion of the stylus and
3 the first portion of the stylus is configured to be screwed into the receptacle.

1 8. The handheld computer of claim 6, wherein a first portion of
2 the stylus is configured to be unsnapped from a second portion of the
3 stylus and the first portion of the stylus is configured to be snapped into
4 the receptacle.

1 9. A joystick device for a handheld computer, the handheld
2 computer configured to be used with a stylus, comprising:
3 an input device integrated into the handheld computer;
4 a coupler integrated into the input device configured to
5 couple at least a portion of the stylus to the input device.

1 10. The joystick device of claim 9, wherein the stylus has at
2 least two sections a first section being configured to be coupled to a
3 second section by a screw thread.

1 11. The joystick device of claim 9, wherein the coupler includes
2 a screw thread.

1 12. The joystick of claim 9, wherein the input device is configured to
2 communicate a directional input by a user in four discrete directions.

1 13. The joystick of claim 9, wherein the input device is configured to
2 communicate a directional input by a user in eight discrete directions.

1 14. The joystick of claim 9, wherein the input device is configured to
2 communicate a directional input by a user in more than eight discrete
3 directions.

1 15. The joystick of claim 9, wherein the input device is configured to
2 communicate a directional input by a user in a continuum of directions.

1 16. The joystick of claim 9, wherein the input device is a joypad.

1 17. A handheld computer, comprising:
2 a housing;
3 data processing electronics disposed within the housing;
4 a display disposed in the housing and coupled to the data
5 processing electronics, the display including a touch screen configured to
6 be used with a stylus;
7 a joypad coupled to the data processing electronics and
8 configured to communicate signals to the data processing electronics
9 dependent on the direction in which the joypad is moved, the joypad
10 being movably integrated into the housing; and
11 a joystick coupler integrated into the joypad, the joypad
12 coupler configured to receive at least a portion of the stylus which is
13 configured to act as a joystick.

1 18. The handheld computer of claim 17, wherein the joystick
2 coupler includes a screw thread.

1 19. The handheld computer of claim 17, wherein the joystick coupler
2 includes a flexible fitting.

1 20. The handheld computer of claim 17, wherein the joypad is
2 configured to communicate signals corresponding to eight discrete directional
3 user inputs.

1 21. A method of assembling a joystick for a handheld computer,
2 comprising:
3 providing a handheld computer with a joystick receptacle;
4 providing a stylus having a detachable portion;
5 detaching a detachable portion from the stylus; and
6 coupling the detachable portion to the receptacle.

1 22. The method of claim 21, wherein the joystick receptacle is part
2 of a joypad integrated into the handheld computer.

1 23. The method of claim 21, wherein the receptacle includes a
2 screw thread.

1 24. The method of claim 21, wherein the detachable portion is
2 the stylus tip.